

WE CLAIM:

1. A polishing apparatus comprising:
 - a rotating unit, which rotates an object under polish,
 - an abrasive tape, which polishes a surface of the object under polish,
 - a tape head, which presses said abrasive tape against the surface of the object under polish,
 - a tape supply unit, which supplies said abrasive tape to said tape head,
 - a tape take-up unit, which takes-up said abrasive tape from said tape head, and
 - a tape head pressuring unit, which pressures said tape head using the electromagnetic force.
2. The polishing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said tape head consists of a roller.
3. The polishing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said tape head pressuring unit has a swing arm, which supports said tape head vertically, and a voice coil motor, which pressures said tape head supported by said swing arm.
4. The polishing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said tape head pressuring unit has a linear-type voice coil motor whose movable portion moves straight, and
said tape head is connected to the movable portion of said linear-type voice coil motor.
5. The polishing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said tape head pressuring unit has a rotary-type voice coil motor whose movable portion rotates, and
said tape head is connected to the movable portion of said rotary-type voice coil motor.
6. A polishing method comprising the steps of:
 - rotating an object under polish,
 - supplying and taking-up an abrasive tape to/from a tape head, and
 - pressing said abrasive tape against a surface of the object under polish by pressuring said tape head using the electromagnetic force.

7. The polishing method according to claim 6, wherein said tape head is pressured in the direction almost right-angled to the direction of the tension applied to said abrasive tape due to the supply and take-up of said abrasive tape.

8. The polishing method according to claim 6, wherein the object under polish is supported and rotated such that the surface to be polished is arranged vertically.

9. The polishing method according to claim 6, wherein said abrasive tape is recovered below the object under polish.

10. The polishing method according to claim 6, wherein a voice coil motor is utilized in generating a pressuring force for pressuring said tape head, and
said voice coil motor is driven by supplying a certain voltage.

11. A polishing apparatus comprising:

a rotating unit, which rotates an object under polish,

an abrasive tape, which polishes a surface of the object under polish,

a tape head, which presses said abrasive tape against the surface of the object under polish,

a tape supply unit, which supplies said abrasive tape to said tape head,

a tape take-up unit, which takes-up said abrasive tape from said tape head,

a tape head pressuring unit, which pressures said tape head using a voice coil motor,

a sensor, which detects a vibration of said voice coil motor, and

a control circuit, which supplies an electric signal that causes said voice coil motor to generate a certain electromagnetic force and adjusts said electric signal depending on a detection signal from said sensor.

12. A polishing apparatus comprising:

a rotating unit, which rotates an object under polish,

an abrasive tape, which polishes a surface of the object under polish,

a tape head, which presses said abrasive tape against the surface of the object under polish,

a tape supply unit, which supplies said abrasive tape to said tape head,
a tape take-up unit, which takes-up said abrasive tape from said tape head,
a tape head pressuring unit, which pressures said tape head using a voice coil motor,
a sensor, which detects a vibration of said voice coil motor, and
a control circuit, which adds a high frequency signal to an electric signal that causes
said voice coil motor to generate a certain electromagnetic force, supplies them and
adjusts said electric signal depending on a detection signal from said sensor.

13. A polishing apparatus comprising:

a rotating unit, which rotates an object under polish,
an abrasive tape, which polishes a surface of the object under polish,
a tape head, which presses said abrasive tape against the surface of the object under
polish,
a tape supply unit, which supplies said abrasive tape to said tape head,
a tape take-up unit, which takes-up said abrasive tape from said tape head,
a voice coil motor, which pressures said tape head,
a pressure sensor, which detects a pressuring force of said voice coil motor, and
a feedback control circuit, which generates a drive signal for said voice coil motor and
adjusts said drive signal depending on a pressure detection signal from said pressure
sensor.

14. The polishing apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said feedback control
circuit has a target value generating circuit, which generates a signal indicating a target
pressuring force, a differential amplifier and a VCM drive circuit, and
said differential amplifier inputs the signal from said target value generating circuit and
a pressure detection signal from said pressure sensor and outputs a differential signal to
said VCM drive circuit.

15. A polishing apparatus comprising:

a rotating unit, which rotates an object under polish,
an abrasive tape, which polishes a surface of the object under polish,

a tape head, which presses said abrasive tape against the surface of the object under polish,

a tape supply unit, which supplies said abrasive tape to said tape head,

a tape take-up unit, which takes-up said abrasive tape from said tape head,

a voice coil motor, which moves and pressures said tape head,

a position sensor, which detects a position of said tape head,

a pressure sensor, which detects a pressuring force of said voice coil motor,

the first feedback control circuit, which generates a drive signal for said voice coil motor and adjusts said drive signal depending on a position detection signal from said position sensor,

the second feedback control circuit, which generates a drive signal for said voice coil motor and adjusts said drive signal depending on a pressure detection signal from said pressure sensor, and

a selector, which selects said first and second feedback circuits alternatively.

16. The polishing apparatus according to claim 15, wherein said first feedback control circuit has the first target value generating circuit, which generates a signal indicating a target position, the first differential amplifier and a VCM drive circuit,

said second feedback control circuit has the second target value generating circuit, which generates a signal indicating a target pressuring force, and the second differential amplifier, and shares said VCM drive circuit with said first feedback control circuit,

said first differential amplifier inputs the signal from said first target value generating circuit and a position detection signal from said position sensor and outputs the first differential signal to said VCM drive circuit through said selector, and

said second differential amplifier inputs the signal from said second target value generating circuit and a pressure detection signal from said pressure sensor and outputs the second differential signal to said VCM drive circuit through said selector.

17. The polishing apparatus according to claim 16, wherein said position sensor is a linear displacement sensor,

said first and second target value generating circuits are a logic control circuit generating digital data,

said logic control circuit inputs the position detection signal from said linear displacement sensor through a A/D converter and outputs the signal indicating the target position to said first differential amplifier through a D/A converter, and

said logic control circuit inputs the pressure detection signal from said pressure sensor through a A/D converter and outputs the signal indicating the target pressuring force to said second differential amplifier through a D/A converter.

18. A polishing method comprising the steps of:

rotating an object under polish,

supplying an abrasive tape to a tape head,

driving a voice coil motor by generating a signal indicating a target pressuring force so as to pressure said tape head by said voice coil motor,

detecting a pressuring force of said voice coil motor, and

pressing said abrasive tape against a surface of the object under polish by controlling said voice coil motor with a pressure detection signal fed back to the signal indicating the target pressuring force.

19. The polishing method according to claim 18, wherein said voice coil motor is driven by generating the signal, which rises gradually up to a final target pressuring force, depending on the pressure detection signal and controlled by generating the signal indicating the final target pressuring force after that.

20. A polishing method comprising the steps of:

rotating an object under polish,

supplying an abrasive tape to a tape head,

driving a voice coil motor by generating a signal indicating the first target position so as to move said tape head by said voice coil motor,

detecting a position of said tape head,

moving said tape head toward a surface of the object under polish and stopping it at a point, which is close to the surface of the object under polish, by controlling said voice

coil motor with a position detection signal fed back to the signal indicating the first target position,

driving said voice coil motor by generating a signal indicating the second target position so as to move said tape head by said voice coil motor,

detecting the position of said tape head,

making said abrasive tape to touch the surface of the object under polish by controlling said voice coil motor with the position detection signal fed back to the signal indicating the second target position,

driving said voice coil motor by generating a signal indicating a target pressuring force so as to pressure said tape head by said voice coil motor,

detecting a pressuring force of said voice coil motor, and

pressing said abrasive tape against the surface of the object under polish by controlling said voice coil motor with a pressure detection signal fed back to the signal indicating the target pressuring force.

21. The polishing method according to claim 20, wherein said tape head is moved at high speed until the point, which is close to the surface of the object under polish, and said tape head is moved at low speed when making said abrasive tape to touch the surface of the object under polish.

22. The polishing method according to claim 20, wherein the feedback control based on the signal indicating the target position and the position detection signal is switched to the feedback control based on the signal indicating the target pressuring force and the pressure detection signal when said abrasive tape touches the surface of the object under polish or just before that.

23. A manufacturing method for a magnetic disk comprising the steps of:

rotating the magnetic disk or its substrate,

supplying an abrasive tape to a tape head, and

pressing said abrasive tape against a surface of the magnetic disk or its substrate by pressuring said tape head using the electromagnetic force so as to polish the surface of the magnetic disk or its substrate.

24. A manufacturing method for a magnetic disk comprising the steps of:
rotating the magnetic disk or its substrate,
supplying an abrasive tape to a tape head,
driving a voice coil motor by generating a signal indicating a target pressuring force so as to pressure said tape head by said voice coil motor,
detecting a pressuring force of said voice coil motor, and
pressing said abrasive tape against a surface of the magnetic disk or its substrate by controlling said voice coil motor with a pressure detection signal fed back to the signal indicating the target pressuring force so as to polish the surface of the magnetic disk or its substrate.

25. A manufacturing method for a magnetic disk comprising the steps of:
rotating the magnetic disk or its substrate,
supplying an abrasive tape to a tape head,
driving a voice coil motor by generating a signal indicating the first target position so as to move said tape head by said voice coil motor,
detecting a position of said tape head,
moving said tape head toward a surface of the magnetic disk or its substrate and stopping it at a point, which is close to the surface of the magnetic disk or its substrate, by controlling said voice coil motor with a position detection signal fed back to the signal indicating the first target position,
driving said voice coil motor by generating a signal indicating the second target position so as to move said tape head by said voice coil motor,
detecting the position of said tape head,
making said abrasive tape to touch the surface of the magnetic disk or its substrate by controlling said voice coil motor with the position detection signal fed back to the signal indicating the second target position,
driving said voice coil motor by generating a signal indicating a target pressuring force so as to pressure said tape head by said voice coil motor,
detecting a pressuring force of said voice coil motor, and

pressing said abrasive tape against the surface of the magnetic disk or its substrate by controlling said voice coil motor with a pressure detection signal fed back to the signal indicating the target pressuring force so as to polish the surface of the magnetic disk or its substrate.